

Health News Release

For immediate release: November 7, 2019 (19-127)

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State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., dentists, nurses, counselors). Information about disciplinary action taken against medical doctors and physician assistants can be found on the Washington Medical Commission (WMC) website. Questions about WMC disciplinary actions can be sent to media@wmc.wa.gov.

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Look up a health care provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the Department of Health website (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In October 2019 the secretary of health conditionally granted a home care aide credential to **Dustin Raquel Daniels** (HM60912173), who must submit performance evaluations or unemployment declarations. In 2015 Daniels was convicted in Tennessee of theft.

Clark County

In October 2019 the Medical Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified medical assistant credential to **Hillary Odalys Cruz-Flores** (CM60916266) and placed her on probation for at least 12 months. Cruz-Flores must provide proof of compliance and completion in a criminal case.

Grant County

In October 2019 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **DeAnna R. Castro** (NA60656694) with unprofessional conduct. In 2019 Castro was convicted of first-degree malicious mischief-physical damage, and of possession of a controlled substance.

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King County

In October 2019 the Agency-Affiliated Counselor Program charged agency-affiliated counselor **Curtis Leon Royster** (CG60312965) with unprofessional conduct. Royster allegedly had romantic and sexual contact with one client, and made inappropriate comments to two other clients.

In October 2019 the Nursing Commission conditionally granted a registered nurse credential to **Danielle Marie Regan** (RN60979317) and ordered her to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program. The condition was based on Regan's answer to questions on her application about substance use.

In October 2019 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Paul Kibe Kariuki** (NC60173019) with unprofessional conduct. In 2013 Kariuki was convicted of driving under the influence. In 2017 Kariuki was convicted of reckless driving. That same year Kariuki received deferred prosecution on charges of driving under the influence, and ignition interlock violation. Kariuki, while caring for a resident in the presence of another worker, allegedly called the resident stupid.

Lewis County

In October 2019 the Nursing Commission reinstated the registered nurse credential of **Loraine B. Smith** (RN00161952). Smith's license was suspended in 2015 in connection with misrepresenting the number of hours she had worked.

Okanogan County

In October 2019 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Carla Daniella De La Paz** (NC60524810) with unprofessional conduct. In 2016 De La Paz was convicted of second-degree rendering criminal assistance. In 2017 De La Paz pleaded guilty to third-degree theft.

Pierce County

In September 2019 the secretary of health denied a home care aide credential to **Delaney Marjorie Beck** (HM60877684). Twice in 2016, Beck was convicted of unlawful possession of a controlled substance-heroin.

In September 2019 the secretary of health conditionally granted a mental health counselor credential to **Cindra Ann Jones** (LH60887874), who must abide by conditions placed on her chemical dependency professional trainee credential in 2019.

In October 2019 the Chiropractic Commission modified an agreement with chiropractor **Michael L. Wall II** (CH00034640). The modification places Wall on probation for three years and requires the chiropractor to have a radiographic technique mentor. Wall was placed on probation in 2017 in connection with patient treatment, X-ray, documentation, and billing issues.

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In October 2019 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Miriam Njoki Gakunyi Kamau** (NC60163112) with unprofessional conduct. Kamau allegedly used a resident's debit card 19 times to withdraw about \$18,000.

San Juan County

In October 2019 the secretary of health withdrew charges against massage therapist **Kirk Dinwiddie Fuhrmeister** (MA00003188).

Skagit County

In October 2019 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Chen Yuzhi** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Yuzhi allegedly offered a massage, but doesn't have a massage therapist license.

In October 2019 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Monserrath Nohelly Carrisoza-Rojas** (NC60784010) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say Carrisoza-Rojas used a client's debit card multiple times to withdraw money and to make purchases for her own use. In 2018 Carrisoza-Rojas was convicted of second-degree attempted theft, and of three counts of third-degree theft.

Snohomish County

In October 2019 the Unlicensed Practice Program entered an agreement with **Qingli Ma** that requires Ma to cease and desist from practicing massage without a license, and to pay a \$2,000 fine. Ma practiced massage without a license.

Walla Walla County

In October 2019 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Melissa A. Cross**, also known as Melissa A. Eronemo (RN60154735), that requires her to enroll in and comply with a substance abuse monitoring program, after which her credential will be reinstated and she will be placed on probation. Cross's license was suspended in 2016 after she didn't comply with a substance abuse monitoring program, and in connection with a drug-related criminal conviction.

Out of State

Illinois: In October 2019 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Lisa A. Bruening** (RN60763370) with unprofessional conduct. In 2018 conditions were imposed on Bruening's Illinois practice based on findings of impaired practice.

Michigan: In October 2019 the Massage Program charged massage therapist **Hong Juan Zhang** (MA60209722) with unprofessional conduct. In 2019 Zhang was convicted of two counts of permitting unlicensed massage therapy.

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Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The <u>DOH website</u> is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. <u>Find us on Facebook</u> and follow us on Twitter. Sign up for the DOH blog, <u>Public Health Connection</u>.

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